

Serial Number 10/063,427

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for locating process sensitive areas of a design, comprising the steps of:

scanning a pre-release or released ~~designview~~ for shape configuration data for process sensitive sites that cause productivity loss;

coding the shape configuration data such that it is recognizable to a design checker; and

using the design checker to identify target matches where such shape configuration data is present in the design.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 where the target matches are collected as shapes inserted into the design data.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 where the design checker has the capability to check for 3-D structures.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 also comprising the step of converting the target matches into a format usable by characterization, and metrology systems.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 where the using of the design checker to produce target matches is deployed automatically for new designs.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2 also comprising the step of producing images of the locations where such shape configuration data is found.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 which also comprises the step of transfer the images and locations to a website configured so that the target matches can be visualized in usable forms.

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8-15 (Cancelled)

16. (Original) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform the method steps for locating process sensitive areas of a design, the method steps comprising:

loading into memory for released devices shape configuration data for process sensitive sites that cause productivity loss such data being coded such to be recognizable to a design checker;

loading into memory physical design data for the design; and using the design checker to produce target matches at the locations where such shape configuration data is present in the design.

17. (Original) The program storage device of claim 16 where the target matches are collected in a database as shapes inserted into the design data.

18. (Original) The program storage device of claim 16 where the design checker provides one with the ability to check for 3-D structures.

19. (Original) The program storage device of claim 17 where the method of locating process sensitive areas also comprises the step of converting the target matches into a format useable by characterization and metrology systems.

20. (Currently amended) The program storage device of claim 17 where the method of locating process sensitive areas also comprises the step of ~~converting 6. The method of claim 2 also comprising the step of -converting the target matches into images of the locations where such shape configuration data is found.~~